

Capsule Summary

Inventory No. CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Road

Carroll County, MD

1851-1952

Access: Private

The Carrollton Roller Mill, now silent and deteriorating, was a center of local commerce and trade in the small village of Carrollton seven miles west of Westminster. The wood frame and stone mill was initially built in 1851 and expanded in the early twentieth century. Over the years the milling machinery was expanded and improved according to modern innovations. The miller's house sits adjacent to the mill against a stone embankment that defines the flood plain of the western branch of the Patapsco River. The house is constructed entirely of stone and dates to the same era as the mill but has been expanded over the years to include expanded living space as well as an integral garage. Running parallel to the Patapsco is the Western Maryland Railroad tracks for which there was a station further upstream.

The Carrollton Roller Mill represents the localized nature of food and grain processing reaching back to the mid-1800s to the mid-1900s and is an illustration of the viability of the farming economy in Carroll County well into the 20th century. It also shows the relationship between the railroad and local commerce in the early 20th century. As the current Carrollton Mill was not the first mill to be built in this area, it also represents the milling tradition in the town of Carrollton (National Register Criteria A). The construction of the mill illustrates the work of skilled craftsmen in the building of a multi-story post and beam structure. It is one of only six mills extant in Carroll County (National Register Criteria C).

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CARR-909

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Carrollton Roller Mill (preferred), Shamberger's Mill

other

2. Location

street and number 2208 Carrollton Road not for publication

city, town Westminster, Carrollton X vicinity

county Carroll

3. Owner of Property

(gives names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name H. Eugene & Karen Parry

street and number 2208 Carrollton Road telephone

city, town Westminster state MD zip code 21157

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County courthouse liber 834 folio 420

city, town Westminster tax map 47 tax parcel 55 tax ID number unknown

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☒ Other: MIHP

6. Classification

Category		Ownership		Current Function		Resource Count					
<input type="checkbox"/>	district	<input type="checkbox"/>	public	<input type="checkbox"/>	agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private	<input type="checkbox"/>	commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/>	recreation/culture	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	both	<input type="checkbox"/>	defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	religion	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	site			<input type="checkbox"/>	domestic	<input type="checkbox"/>	social	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	object			<input type="checkbox"/>	education	<input type="checkbox"/>	transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	objects
<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	funerary	<input type="checkbox"/>	work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Total
				<input type="checkbox"/>	government	<input type="checkbox"/>	unknown				
				<input type="checkbox"/>	health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	vacant/not in use				
				<input type="checkbox"/>	industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	other:				
								Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory			
								unknown			

7. Description

Inventory No. CARR-909

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/>	ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Description Summary

The Carrollton Roller Mill, now silent and deteriorating, was a center of local commerce and trade in the small village of Carrollton seven miles west of Westminster. The wood frame and stone mill was initially built in 1851 and expanded in the early twentieth century. Over the years the milling machinery was expanded and improved according to modern innovations. The miller's house sits adjacent to the mill against a stone embankment that defines the flood plain of the western branch of the Patapsco River. The house is constructed entirely of stone and dates to the same era as the mill but has been expanded over the years to include expanded living space as well as an integral garage. Running parallel to the Patapsco is the Western Maryland Railroad tracks for which there was a station further upstream.

Description

The mill at Carrollton was built in 1851 and called Shamberger's Mill, though the initial owner soon sold it to the first of a long list of millers. The mill building is L-shaped with the oldest part facing the Patapsco River. This part has a one story stone foundation with an arched water intake and a two and a half story timber framed structure on top. As you approach the mill via a gravel lane you see the east façade which is five bays wide with a door in the stone foundation at ground level and a porch atop a stone wall accessing a door on the second floor. The gable end of the mill faces the Patapsco and is three bays wide. Here the foundation has a stone arch built into it to allow water to flow from the mill into the stream. Above this and to the proper right of the arch is a batten door accessing the ground level and on the second, third and attic levels are also batten doors forming a straight line up the center of the structure. On either side of the doors are six over six wood framed windows.

A later three-story addition has been added to the southern façade, extending it by approximately 30 feet. This addition holds large wooden grain bins and has no windows or doors. The grain bins, are an interesting example of an effort to make the room-sized bins leak proof and rodent resistant. These bins are constructed of true 2x4 boards stacked on top of each other so that the narrow part of the board faces out. Thousands of board feet were needed to construct these holding bins. The ground level is open and appears to have sustained flood damage. The gable end of the addition has three windows asymmetrically placed, one on the ground level, a small four pane window at the center left of the façade and another window at the attic level. It appears another addition was built at the juncture of the original building and the western addition extending the roof line up one story which makes it appear like a small two bay tower. This area cannot be seen from the eastern or southern elevations. The rear of the structure is where the waterwheel had been, the ground floor is open. There are two doorways on the second level and two windows on the third.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CARR-909

Name Carrollton Roller Mill
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The construction consists of milled beams, pegged mortise and tenon joints, and and large faceted posts with lamb's tongue decoration. Interior boxes and chutes are mainly constructed with beaded boards. The various levels of the mill are accessed by original open ship's ladders, and illuminated by six over six wooden framed windows. At the peak of the roof is a covered pulley with iron hook for loading and unloading grain and flour. This pulley is in line with the four doors on the south side of the mill. The interior still holds the machinery of the mill from various eras, including grinding stones, wooden and metal cogs, worm feeder (for moving grain between areas of the mill) and flour sifters. The miller's office on the second floor still retains some of the paperwork associated with the mill operation and stencils for various bags and barrels remain inside.

The outside of the mill is sheathed in wood clapboard and the roof is covered with corrugated tin sheets. An addition was added in the early 20th century that contains large grain bins, and additional room for a saw mill and cider press. Much of the lower level of this addition and the original mill was heavily damaged due to flooding caused by hurricanes.

The water wheel, once at the rear of the building, is now gone. A steel water wheel had replaced the wood wheel in 1916, according to current owner Karen Parry, the steel wheel was leaning against the building due in part by hurricane damage and old age, so they had the wheel removed with the use of a large crane.

One ingeneous aspect of the mill is its worm grain conveyor. Installed by Abner Devilbiss in the 1930s it is 170 feet long connecting the mill to the railroad across the Patapsco. The worm, by the use of a spiral shaped augur, could transport grain from cars on the rail siding, under the tracks, over the stream and into a receiving pit in the mill. The parts of the conveyer inside the mill still survive.

The miller's house is a modest stone dwelling built contemporary with the mill. It sits to the north east of the mill tight against the stone outcropping that borders the creek's flood plain. The center part of the house, with its gable end facing south was built first in the 1850s with the eastern addition added shortly thereafter, then another small addition to the west was added in the early twentieth century, and finally in the 1950s a two car garage was added to the end of the western addition. All of these additions are constructed of stone, with the garage apparently faced in matching stone. Access to the interior of the house was very limited so a more comprehensive description of the floor plan and interior attributes is not possible. The decorative trim along the facia appears to be a restoration and could have possibly replicated an original architectural detail.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CARR-909

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts	
1700-1799	archeology	education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government	
1900-1999	art	entertainment/	landscape architecture	religion	
2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	recreation	law	science	
	communications	ethnic heritage	literature	social history	
	community planning	exploration/	maritime history	transportation	
	conservation	settlement	military	other: _____	
Specific dates	1851-1952	Architect/Builder	unknown		
Construction dates	1851, c. 1916				

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary of Significance

The Carrollton Roller Mill represents the localized nature of food and grain processing reaching back to the mid-1800s to the mid-1900s and is an illustration of the viability of the farming economy in Carroll County well into the 20th century. It also shows the relationship between the railroad and local commerce in the early 20th century. As the current Carrollton Mill was not the first mill to be built in this area, it also represents the milling tradition in the town of Carrollton (National Register Criteria A). The construction of the mill illustrates the work of skilled craftsmen in the building of a multi-story post and beam structure. It is one of only six mills extant in Carroll County (National Register Criteria C).

Historic Context

[See “Historic Industry in Mid-Maryland” prepared for the Maryland Historical Trust through the Catoctin Center for Regional Studies, 2002-2003.]

Much of Carroll County was home to family farms from its creation in 1837 to the middle of the twentieth century. Many of these farms were self-sustaining enterprises growing fruits, vegetables, and grain for use of the family and for sale and shipment to larger towns and cities. The Carrollton Mill's roots can be traced to a much earlier mill called Oxmore Mill built in the 18th century across the Patapsco, west of the current mill. This older mill was demolished to make way for the Western Maryland Railroad line that passes through town on the southern banks of the Patapsco.¹

Built in 1851, the mill was in continual use until its closing in 1952. At its peak, in the late 19th and early 20th century, Carrollton Roller Mill produced flour, cornmeal, hominy, buckwheat, animal feed, and cider. It is an example of a merchant mill adopting new technology in a piecemeal fashion. First operating as an overshot mill with stone burrs, eight rollers were

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CARR-909

Name Carrollton Roller Mill
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

added and larger burrs were purchased in 1912. The wooden wheel was replaced in 1916 with a steel wheel and eventually a turbine and a gasoline engine were added to help produce more power to operate a cider press and supplement power in times of low water.²

In addition to milling, the owner in 1912, William H. Long maintained an orchard north of the mill property which no doubt served as a source of apples for the mill's press. Although the mill was still operating in the 1940s the volume was down and by its close in 1952 only a small amount of animal feed was being produced in the Carrollton Mill. Standing silent, the mill remained intact for the next twenty years. Then in 1972, the rains of Hurricane Agnes flooded the Carrollton valley and heavily damaged the mill's dam. Then, again in 1975 Hurricane Eloise flooded the area and took the remainder of the mill's dam. Water had raged through the first floor of the mill ripping up floorboards and tossing around machinery, heavily damaging the interior of the structure.³

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CARR-909

Historical Society of Carroll County, Westminster, Md., vertical files.

Prall, Joan. Mills and Memories. self published, 1985.

The Maryland Directory. J.Frank Lewis & Co.: Baltimore, 1878, 1880, 1883, 1887.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Approx 1 acre

Acreage of historical setting 22 acres

Quadrangle name Westminster, MD Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is defined by Carroll County tax map 47, parcel 55.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Heidi Campbell-Shoaf, Historian

organization Paula S. Reed & Assoc., Inc.

date August 2003

street & number 105 N. Potomac St.

telephone 301.739.2070

city or town Hagerstown

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CARR-909

Name Carrollton Roller Mill
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

¹ Prall, Joan. Mills and Memories. (self published, 1985) p. 32.

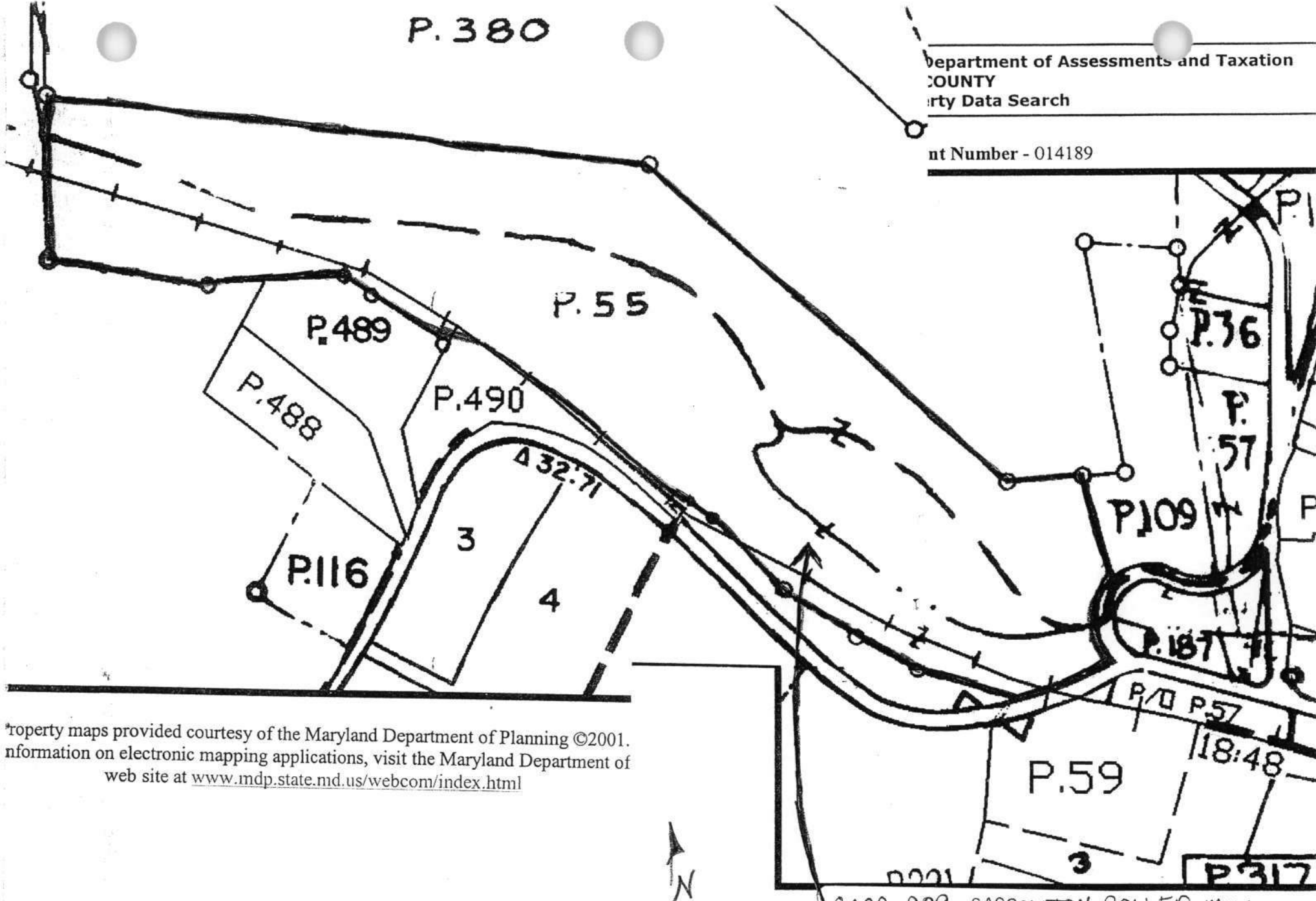
² Undated newspaper clipping, c. 1942, vertical files, Historical Society of Carroll
County; Prall, p.33.

³ Prall, p. 33.

P. 380

Department of Assessments and Taxation
COUNTY
Property Data Search

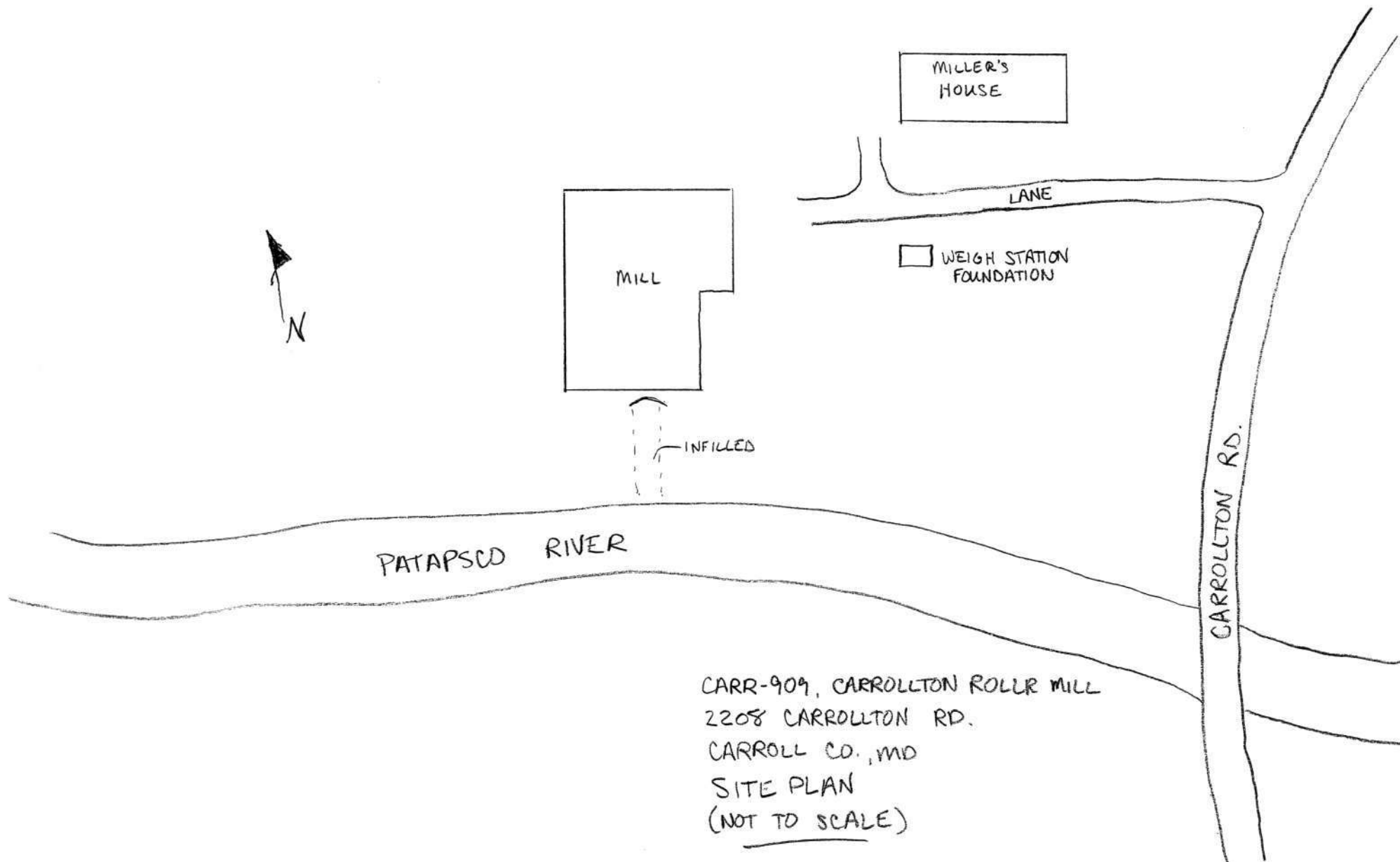
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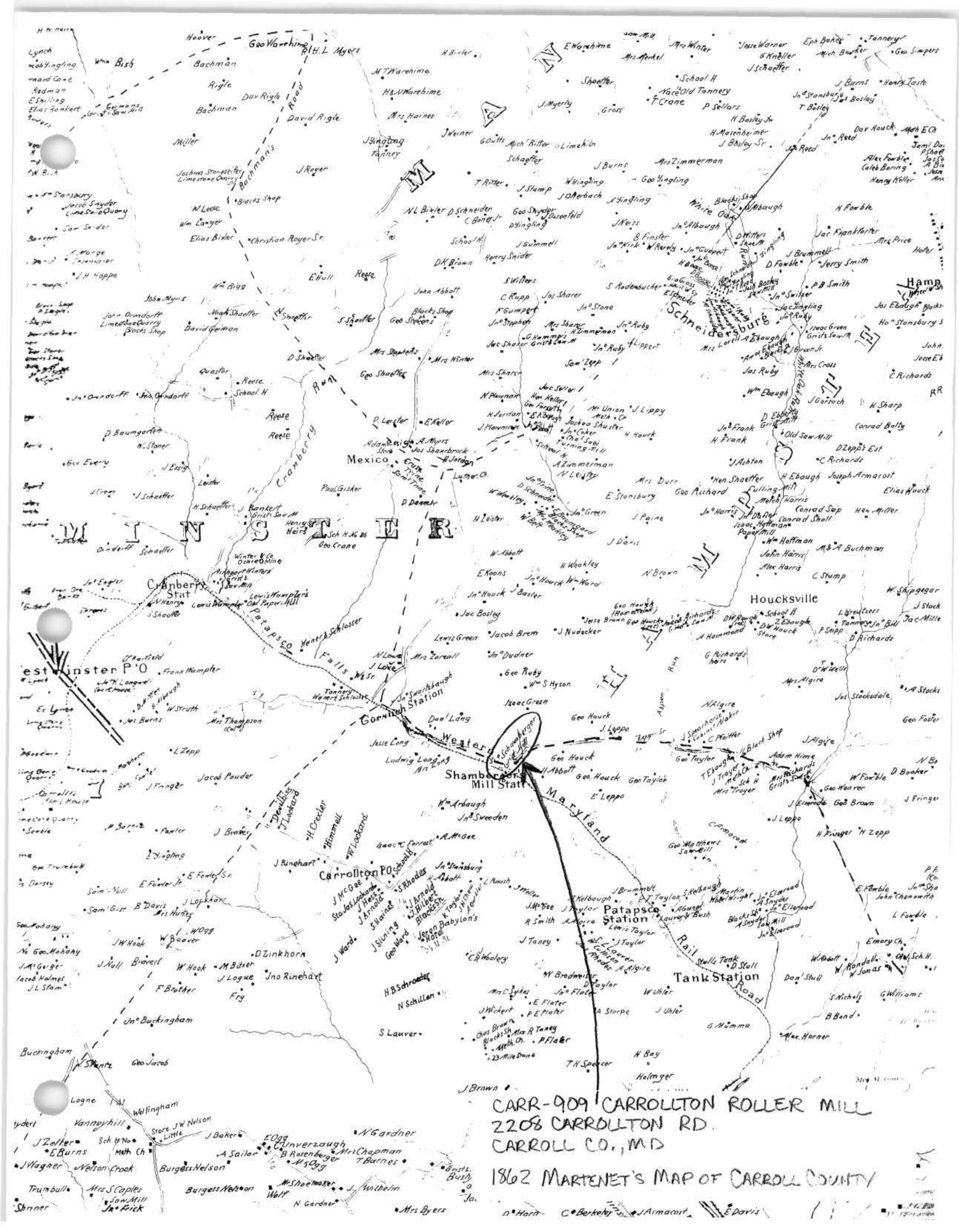


Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001.
Information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of
web site at www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html

For more

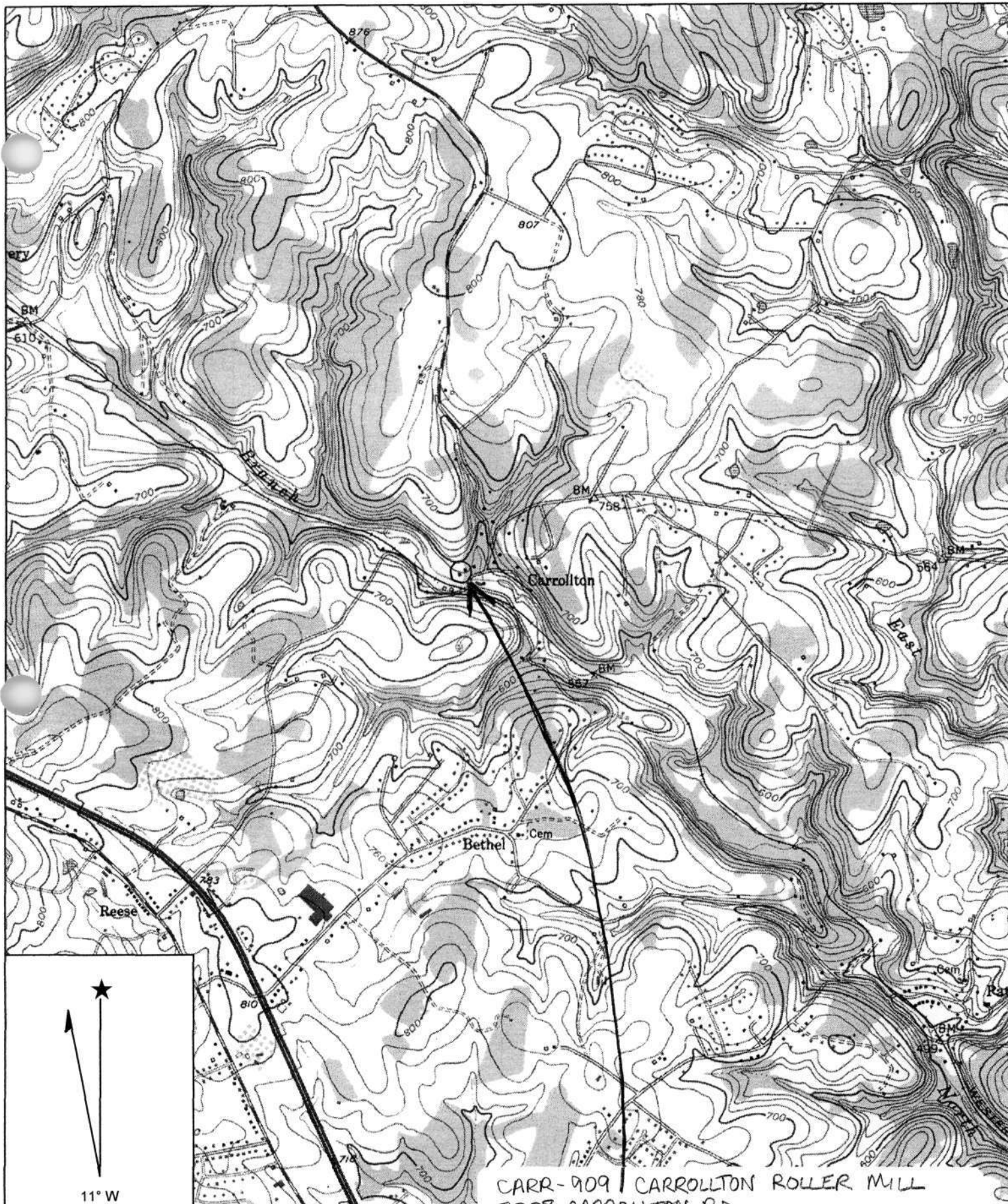
CARR-909, CARROLLTON ROLLER MILL
2208 CARROLLTON RD.
CARROLL CO., MD
TAX MAP 47, PARCEL 55





CARR-909 CARROLLTON ROLLER MILL
2208 CARROLLTON RD.
CARROLL CO., MD

1862 MARTENET'S MAP OF CARROLL COUNTY



CARR-909 CARROLLTON ROLLER MILL
2208 CARROLLTON RD.
CARROLL CO., MD
USGS MAP, WESTMINSTER, MD QUAD

Name: WESTMINSTER
Date: 9/8/2003
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

Elevation of Miller's house

1/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

Foundation of weigh station located due
east of mill and south of house

2/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

E elevation of mill

3/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSTHPD

South elevation of mill viewed looking to the
NW

4/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

West elevation of mill showing later
additions

5/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSTPO

North elevation of mill viewed looking SW
from NE corner

6/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

Elevation of mill viewed from the NW
corner

7/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

Flour sifting mechanism on third story of
mill

8/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller mill

2208 Carrollton Rd

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

View #2 of mill cogs at N side of first floor

9/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

View of mill cogs located on ground floor
along north end of mill

10/15



CARZ-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

View of post and beam construction and
wood shingles on roof as seen in attic of mill

11/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

View into grain storage bin accessed from
second floor

12/15



CARR-909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

view of belt wheels (fore ground)

13/15



CPRR-909

Carrollton Roller mill

2208 Carrollton Rd

Carroll Co., MD

H. Campbell - Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

Detail of construction of interior mill showing
champhered post

14/15



CARR 909

Carrollton Roller Mill

2208 Carrollton Rd.

Carroll Co. MD

H. Campbell-Shoaf

8/03

MDSHPO

View of mill culvert directing water out of
mill toward Patapsco - now mostly back filled

15/
15